

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2003/12/10 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000200320011-2

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REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Altenburg

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EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 27 October to 28 November 1952

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 9 January 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 28 November 1952, the barracks installation on the east side of Leipziger Strasse, Altenburg, was occupied by about 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with and without artillery insignia. On 7 November, about 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 17 November, about 50 troops were lined up in the barracks yard and 30 troops engaged in firing practice with 2 x 45-mm AT guns north of the installation. On 19 November, about 60 troops maintained trucks, north of the installation. Five prime movers, each towing a 152-mm howitzer and about 115 troops were also seen there. A 45-mm AT gun, an officer and 12 troops who received instruction were seen in the field. On 21 November, about 100 troops practiced position of attention in the barracks yard. At the northern end of the installation, west of the two large wooden sheds, the preliminary construction of a third building of the same size and type as the other two was being completed. On 25 November, 11 troops with a 76-mm field gun were seen in the Obstwaeldchen (woods) north of the installation and 40 troops with 2 x 100-mm AT guns, near Steinberg Strasse, north of the installation. About 100 troops and numerous officers around camp fires and 1 x 152-mm gun howitzer were also observed there.

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2. On 28 November, the barracks installation on the west side of Leipziger Strasse was occupied by about 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with and without artillery insignia. On 7 November, about 500 troops and a military band fell in in the barracks yard. From 17 to 28 November, about 80 troops maintaining trucks, 1 heavy prime mover towing a flat trailer and 10 trucks parked near the motor vehicle repair shop including ambulance and truck. On 27 October, 25 trucks, 3 x 152-mm field guns and 2 x 100-mm AT guns were seen in the installation.

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3. Seventy-five percent of the officers' billets were occupied by field grade officers. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Eight wooden towers with wooden stairs were being built in the training area, about 10 meters from the street. Field fortifications were being constructed and trenches were excavated nearby.

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4. On 22 November, the barracks installation on the west side of Leipziger Strasse was occupied to capacity. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The troops had been unloaded from five trains and had moved into the installation from 20 to 22 October. [redacted] these troops had previously been stationed there. On 22 November, about 150 troops were maintaining trucks and 80 to 90 troops drilled in the barracks yard.

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- 25X1A1. [redacted] Comment. As previously, the 38th Army Arty Brig is carried in the barracks installation east of Leipziger Strasse, and the 43d Gds Army Arty Brig, in the barracks installation west of Leipziger Strasse. The 500 troops observed in each of the two installations does not allow to conclude the actual strengths of the brigades. The strength of each brigade is believed to be 1,000 to 1,500. It is possible that elements of the two brigades were absent from the post during the period of observation. According to a previous report [redacted], elements were entrained on 27 October. [redacted] The gun types observed check with previous assumptions. [redacted] Guns of 152-mm are fairly definitely believed to belong to the 43d Gds Army AT Brig.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The five troop trains [redacted] of the present report confirm the return shipments of the 43d Gds Army Arty Brig from the fall maneuvers of the Eighth Gds Army in the Dessau-Wiesenburg area.

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